



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL INSPECTIONS
Room 372, Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
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FOUNDER
Mrs. Sybil Brand

CHAIRPERSON
Mrs. Eleanor R. Montano

VICE CHAIRPERSON
Mrs. Helen H. Stathatos

Mr. Frank S. Bacio
Mr. Vito Cannella
Ms. Rita Hall
Mr. John A. Hammargren
Mr. Carl E. Moore

MINUTES OF THE **SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL INSPECTIONS** **QUARTERLY ROUNDTABLE MEETING** **OCTOBER 24, 2007**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Montaña called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

OPENING CEREMONIES

Chair Montaña led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

ATTENDANCE

Present

Chair Eleanor R. Montaña
Vice Chair Helen H. Stathatos
Frank Bacio
Vito Cannella
Rita Hall
Carl E. Moore

Excused Absence

John A. Hammargren

Others Present

Commander Detta Roberts, Sheriff's Department
Frank Imperial, Probation Department
Elizabeth Howard, Children and Family Services Department
Carla Carr, Auditor-Controller's Office
Tim Braden, Internal Services Department
Paul McIver, Department of Mental Health
Alan Henry, Community Care Licensing Division
Janice A. Davis, Staff, Commission Services Division
Andrew Sevrin, Staff, Commission Services Division
Garen Khachian, Staff, Commission Services Division

Chair Montaña welcomed everybody for coming to the meeting and requested that Department representatives introduce themselves.

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

All participants contributed valuable input, shared their respective experiences and brought the benefit of their expertise to a Roundtable discussion regarding the regulations and monitoring of group/foster homes and their residents then gave the following reports.

Sheriff's Department:

Commander Detta Roberts reported the following:

- The new County Sheriff's Department Administrative Phone Roster was distributed to the Commission.
- The Sybil Brand Detention Center is still under renovation.

Probation Department:

Mr. Frank Imperial reported the following:

- The following five (5) Juvenile Institution Camps were evacuated because of the close proximities of the fires:
 1. Camp Kenyon Scudder
 2. Camp Joseph Scott
 3. Camp William Mendenhall
 4. Camp Vernon Kilpatrick
 5. Camp Fred Miller
- The Los Angeles Unified School District provided busses for the youths who were relocated temporarily to Juvenile Halls.

Children and Family Services:

Ms. Elizabeth Howard reported the following:

- She distributed copies of the Community Care Licensing regulations on Group Homes showing Regulation 84065(d): "The licensee shall designate at least one facility manager to be present at the facility at all times when children are present".

Auditor-Controller's Office:

Ms. Carla Carr reported the following:

- Follow-up reports will be made for three (3) group homes:
 1. Touch of Life
 2. Zenith
 3. Deliann Lucile

Commissioner Hall joined the meeting at 10:40 a.m.

Department of Mental Health:

Paul McIver reported the following:

- The Mental Health Department is closing the Probation Section of the Metropolitan State Hospital in Norwalk.
- Seven (7) new clients have been admitted from the Probation Department. Since the hospitals are closing down alternative facilities for client placement need to be put into action.
- Star View and Vista Del Mar are the two foremost mental health facilities for minors.

Internal Services Department:

Tim Braden reported the following:

- As of October 2007, the Department has received:
 1. 15,000 trouble calls
 2. 9,300 preventative maintenance projects that were completed
 3. 600 minor projects
- The Probation, Children and Family Services, and Internal Services Departments have combined forces to help youth find job opportunities in an Emancipation Program called the "Youth Career Development Program". He showed a short film showing a success story as a result of the program.

Community Care Licensing:

Alan Henry reported the following:

- Two "Children Are Our Future" homes have been closed, one on Ballinger Street and the other on Melvin Avenue, both located in Northridge.
- The "Susie Hardy" home will be opening. No clients will be placed there initially.

Chair Montañó and the Commissioners thanked the Department representatives for their attendance and informative presentations.

APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 17, 2007 MINUTES

On motion of Commissioner Cannella, seconded by Vice Chair Stathatos and unanimously carried, the minutes of October 17, 2007 were approved with no changes.

CHAIR'S REPORT

There was none.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Commissioner Bacio reported the current balance of the Commission's Charitable Fund is \$908.08.

STAFF REPORT

Ms. Janice Davis, Commission Services Staff, reported the following:

- For the coming calendar year 2007 Quarterly Roundtable meetings will be eliminated and replaced with Monthly Business meetings.
- Chair Montaña, Vice Chair Stathatos and Commissioners Hall, Moore and Hammargren are all confirmed for the NEXUS XII Training Conference scheduled for Wednesday, November 14, 2007.

CORRESPONDENCE

There were none.

THE SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION HOLIDAY RECEPTION

The Commission approved the invitation cards distributed to them.

FACILITY/GROUP HOME INSPECTION REPORTS FROM OCTOBER 17, 2007 TO OCTOBER 23, 2007

Bourne Incorporated – 4, #3 – Vice Chair Stathatos

The facility was visited on October 11, 2007 and no one was home.

Dangerfield Group Home – 14, #1 – Chair Montaña

The facility was visited on October 16, 2007 and no one was home.

Little People's World - 36, #2 – Commissioners Hall and Moore

The facility was visited on October 19, 2007 and found to be in satisfactory condition.

Areas of Concern: One smoke detector needs a battery; staff files were inaccessible.

Five Acres – 23, #1 – Vice Chair Stathatos

The facility was visited on October 22, 2007 and found to be in excellent condition. They have a very active support group and a successful family reunification program in effect.

Glass Home (Norris Rocaberte) – 26, #2 – Commissioners Bacio, Hall and Moore

The facility was visited on October 23, 2007 and found to be in satisfactory condition.

Areas of Concern: Security windows don't have quick release bars; smoke detector was hanging from ceiling.

Orange County Children's Foundation – 48, #2 – Chair Montaña

The facility was visited on October 23, 2007 and found to be in satisfactory condition.

Areas of Concern: Kitchen sink needs repair; bathtub needs caulking.

NEW BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENT

Commissioner Moore requested that staff send notices via e-mail to Department representatives advising them how much time they have to respond to Commission requests for information.

- The Sybil Brand Commission asked the Probation Department to provide information regarding alleged non payments to a group home.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was none.

MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA (To be presented and placed on a future agenda)

Commissioner Cannella passed out a letter about the Tierra Del Sol benefit Christmas lunch for discussion at the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Montaña adjourned the meeting at 11:52 a.m in memory of the Southern Californian fire victims.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice Davis
Commission Services Division